

Minutes of Tuesday, June 7, 2011, CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, June 7, 2011, at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, L. Caprioglio, S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, S. Krishnan, S. Rajagopal, D. Stillinger, Don Travisano, and Township Committee liaison K. Tubbs. Also attending was M. Palmer, NRI Update Committee.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2011 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

CTEC and Green Team minutes from May 3, 2011 were approved with a correction from L. Caprioglio to the Planning Board report, motioned by S. Carroll and 2nd by P. Collington, with all in favor.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2011 AND JANUARY 2012.

Every first Tuesday except no meeting in July. Chatham Township municipal building 7:15 PM: Aug 2, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6 in 2011, and second Tuesday, Jan 10, 2012.

GREEN TEAM MEETING S. Carroll, Green Team Chair

- CTEC will be part of Fishawack on June 11. Help needed to staff CTEC table between 10 and 4.
 - CTEC will promote a Green Challenge. It counts for Sustainable Jersey points. Residents agree to take the Challenge. Green Team approved to present the Green Challenge as written in the draft handed out by S. Carroll. Discussion on doing this electronically.
 - Recruiting on-going. Would be good to have a job description for any of the SJ Actions. S. Carroll dropped three Actions because they have become too limiting.
- Green Team meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

NEW. CHATHAM HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND PARKING LOT EXPANSION. Reviewed plans. Proposed 28,000 sq ft, \$500,000 parking lot addition on what is now "Chestnut Field" (behind CHS in beyond left field of CHS Varsity Baseball Field). Plans too sketchy for detailed comments. D. Stillinger will send letter to the Board of Education urging Green construction practices for the parking lot and building addition.

PENDING. FAIRMOUNT AVENUE & JOHNSON DRIVE. 3-4-11. Block 38, Lots 44 & 45. Primavera Parkview, LLC. R-3 (half-acre) zone. Application to Planning Board for 2 lot minor subdivision on corner of Fairmount and Johnson. Nothing new.

NEW. LONGVIEW/FENIX. 2-2-11. Block 32 Lots 2, 6 and 8, Block 33, Lots 1, 14, 17 and 20. Ronald Gunn. Longview Road. R-3 (half-acre) zone. Application to Planning Board for 7 lot major subdivision on Longview Road. Approved CTEC memo to Planning Board.

PENDING. Verizon Wireless. 11-16-10. Block 48.14 Lot 110 (the Gazebo lot on Southern Blvd.) Application to Board of Adjustment for use, setback and height variances to erect antennas on an existing PSE&G tower. Nothing new.

PENDING. Rolling Knolls Superfund site at the end of Britten Road. No new information.

REPORTS

Planning Board report. No new applications. L. Caprioglio.

Township Committee report. Committee is considering all aspects of a zoning change to allow farming in Green Village. K. Tubbs.

Open Space Committee report. Pursuing several possible purchases. D. Travisano.

Community Education and Outreach Committee report. Fishawack is coming up. P. Collington.

Communications Committee report. More improvements to web site. F. Esposito, D. Travisano, P. Collington.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- Natural resources survey being conducted by the Morris County Soil Conservation District in cooperation with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. Survey is a simple multiple choice at <http://cts.vresp.com/c/?FreeholdSoilConserva/bc1f1cb4da/2cc17d2090/6473e2f965>. Anyone can fill it out.
- Discussed changing zoning to allow a farm in Green Village.
- A memo was submitted to the Township Committee asking for open space tax funds to clean up an old household trash dump on Township property on Green Village Road. D. Stillinger.
- Model conservation easement agreement has been submitted to Township Committee for approval and resolution. D. Stillinger, L. Caprioglio.
- NRI revision. NRI Committee met on 4-18-11. Will consider doing most of the updating with volunteers. ANJEC has provided a CD with sample NRIs. S. Carroll, S. Krishnan, D. Stillinger, M. Palmer.
- PSE&G's proposed power line upgrade. About 2.5 miles are in Chatham Township. Of the 15 towns along the route Chatham Township has the second-longest run, after Livingston's 10 miles. Berkeley Heights has about 2 miles. Please let D. Stillinger know if you see contractors working in the ROW along with their company name and anything else you think is important.
- Note the Chatham Township parcel and conservation easement mapping site. To find out owner and land information about parcels and conservation easements go to chathamtownship.org, click on GIS Mapping and follow the prompts. Click the word "parcels" in the layer list, click the Identify tool at the top and then click on the parcel on the map to see information such as owner & area. Click the word "conservation easements", click the Identify tool, click the easement to see details of the conservation easements.
- Purchase of laptop as proposed by S. Krishnan was approved.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- May 2011. Memo to School District of the Chathams concerning proposed parking lot and addition.
- April 2011. Letter to NJDEP opposing Waiver Rule. Memo to Chatham Township Committee requesting open space tax funds to remove trash from two Township properties on Green Village Road to construct a nature trail.
- March 2011. Letter to Chatham Township Committee concerning construction at Colony Pool. Letter to Chatham Township Committee concerning Open Space tax.
- January 2011. Letter to NJDEP concerning LOI application for B 14 L61.01. Letter to NJDEP concerning general permit application by PSE&G.
- November 2010. Letter to NJDEP commenting on PSE&G's LOI application for certain ROWs. Memo to Board of Adjustment concerning variances requested for steep slope disturbance at 28 Ormont Road.
- October 2010. Letter of support for GSWA's 319(h) grant application to NJDEP for remediation in the area of Kitchell Pond and Loantaka Brook.

MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Flyers & newsletters from ESRI.

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:55 PM.

D. Stillinger